IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. An identifier indicating the status of each claim is provided.

Listing of Claims

1.   (Currently Amended) An information-signal-processing apparatus comprising:

plural functional blocks each for processing an information signal; and

a control block for controlling operations of the plural functional blocks,

wherein the control block or a predetermined block of the control block and the plural functional blocks issues a common command; and

each of the plural functional blocks adaptively operates in accordance with the issued common command, and

wherein the information signal includes image signals, and at least one functional block of the plural functional blocks performs an image quality improvement processing, and the common command includes information related to the image quality improvement ~~processing.~~processing, and

wherein the common command includes information indicating a noise level and a resolution level of an image signal, and

wherein each common command is converted into a block-specific command based on a conversion table that associates each common command with an initial value, a predetermined number of functional blocks, and the block-specific command corresponding to each of the predetermined number of functional blocks.

2.   (Original) The information-signal-processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the functional blocks change a signal path or signal processing in accordance with the common command.

3.   (Original) The information-signal-processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the control block includes command acquisition means for acquiring the common command.

4.   (Original) The information-signal-processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the command acquisition means acquires the common command from the plural functional blocks.

5.   (Original) The information-signal-processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the command acquisition means acquires the common command from an outside of the apparatus.

6.   (Original) The information-signal-processing apparatus according to claim 1,

        wherein the control block has a first common command that corresponds to a user operation; and

        wherein if the user operation that corresponds to the first common command is performed, the control block delivers this first common command to the plural functional blocks.

7.   (Original) The information-signal-processing apparatus according to claim 1,

        wherein the control block has a second common command that does not correspond to a

user operation; and

        wherein the control block delivers the second common command to the plural functional

blocks without associating this command with the user operation.

8.   (Original) The information-signal-processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the

block that issues the common command delivers most recent values of the common commands

of all of kinds or some of the kinds to the plural functional blocks for every predetermined lapse

of time.

9.   (Original) The information-signal-processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the

block that issues the common command transmits most recent values of the common commands

of all of kinds or some of the kinds if a command indicative of a normal operation from the

functional block that is to operate when having received the issued common command is not

returned.

10.   (Original) The information-signal-processing apparatus according to claim 1,

        wherein the functional blocks each comprises a control section and a functional section

which is controlled by this functional section;

        wherein the control section includes:

storage means for storing a correlation between the common command related to

its own functional block and an intra-functional-block command used to control the control

section;

reception means for receiving the common command from the control block; and

conversion means for, if the common command received by the reception means

is the common command related to its own functional block, converting this common

command into the intra-functional-block command based on the correlation stored in said

storage means.

11.   (Previously Presented) The information-signal-processing apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein the predetermined block issues the common command including a result of processing

the information signal.

12.   (Original) The information-signal-processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the

control block and said plural functional blocks are connected to each other via a control bus.

13.   (Original) The information-signal-processing apparatus according to claim 12,

wherein each of the plural functional blocks is constituted of a substrate; and

wherein some or all of the plural functional blocks are respectively inserted into slots

formed in a chassis thereof.

14.   (Currently Amended) A functional block control method comprising the steps of:

transmitting a common command to plural functional blocks, respectively, used to process an information signal from a control block or from a predetermined block of the control block and the plural functional blocks; and

adaptively operating the plural functional blocks in accordance with the common command,

wherein the information signal includes image signals, and at least one functional block of the plural functional blocks performs an image quality improvement processing, and the common command includes information related to the image quality improvement ~~processing.~~processing,

wherein the common command includes information indicating a noise level and a resolution level of an image signal, and

wherein each common command is converted into a block-specific command based on a conversion table that associates each common command with an initial value, a predetermined number of functional blocks, and the block-specific command corresponding to each of the predetermined number of functional blocks.

15.   (Currently Amended) A functional block comprising:

a control section; and

a functional section that is controlled by this control section,

wherein the control section includes:

storage means for storing a correlation between a common command related to its own functional block and an intra-functional-block command used to control the control section;

reception means for receiving the common command from a control block; and

conversion means for, if the common command received by the reception means is the common command related to its own functional block, converting this common command into an intra-functional-block command based on the correlation stored in the storage means,

wherein the functional section includes a function to perform an image quality improvement processing, and the common command includes information related to the image quality improvement ~~processing~~.processing,

wherein the common command includes information indicating a noise level and a resolution level of an image signal, and

wherein each common command is converted into a block-specific command based on a conversion table that associates each common command with an initial value, a predetermined number of functional blocks, and the block-specific command corresponding to each of the predetermined number of functional blocks.

16.   (Original) The information-signal-processing apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein the control block and the plural functional blocks respectively have a bus interface;

wherein the control block and the plural functional blocks respectively are connected to each other by a bus using the bus interface; and

wherein the bus interface includes:

a message buffer for storing received data; and

a message storage control section for selectively storing data received via the

bus in the message buffer.

17.   (Original) The information-signal-processing apparatus according to claim 16,

wherein the control block transmits the common command having at least an identifier to

the plural functional blocks; and

wherein if the identifier of a predetermined common command that has been set

beforehand agrees with an identifier of the common command that has been received via the bus,

the message storage control sections in the plural functional blocks store this received common

command into the message buffer.

18.   (Original) The information-signal-processing apparatus according to claim 16, wherein

the bus is a CAN bus.

REMAINDER OF THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.